

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George Melkonian  
Serial No.: 09/712,411  
Title of Invention: Multi-Component Co-Extrusion  
Filing Date: November 13, 2000  
Group Art Unit: 1771  
Examiner: Vo, Hai  
Attorney Docket No.: MI14.406

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TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS<sup>1</sup>  
Washington, D.C. 20231

DECLARATION OF GEORGE MELKONIAN

I, George Melkonian, hereby declare as follows:

1. I am the inventor in the above-identified application.
2. I have been employed by Mikron Industries, Inc., the Assignee of the above-identified application since 1985 and am currently the Director of Extrusion Technology for Mikron Industries, Inc.
3. I have 28 years of experience in the plastic forming industry and am familiar with substantially all forms of plastic forming, including thermoplastic extrusion,

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Box FEE AMENDMENT, The Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

5/3/2002  
Date

Leslie Jordan  
Name of person mailing paper

Leslie Jordan  
Signature of person mailing paper

thermoplastic injection molding, vacuum forming, and the formation of thermo-setting materials (e.g., vacuum-forming).


4. It is my understanding that the Examiner in the above-identified application has contended that the multi-component extrusion described and claimed in my application can be made by a method other than the extrusion technique described and claimed in my application. Specifically, it is my understanding that the Examiner has suggested that my multi-component extrusion could be formed by "casting".

5. I am not aware of any casting process, or other plastic forming process other than coextrusion, that would provide a foamed plastic member within a composite high-density member where the two are molten and formed together such that the two members are molecularly bonded to one another along at least one coextensive wall surface of the composite, high-density member. This is true whether the foamed member is on the outside of that high-density member or the inside of the high-density member. There is no casting process, injection molding process, or vacuum forming process that I am aware of which would provide such a multi-component composite structure having the requisite molecularly bonded features of the extrusion claimed and described in my above-identified application.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that the making of willfully false statements

and the like is punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and may jeopardize the validity of any patent issuing from this patent application.

Dated this 2ND day of MAY, 2002.

  
George Melkonian

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